Pending electricity bills in TAFCO

2080. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of pending accumulated electricity bills with the TAFCO Limited;

(b) the reasons of accumulation of such electricity bills;

(c) whether it is a fact that the bills on account of electricity charges were raised by Kanpur Electricity Supply Administration consequent upon High Court orders;

(d) whether production have been adversely affected; and

(e) if so, the facts and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) (a) Electricity bills amounting to Rs. 33.95 lakhs received for the peroid upto November, 1993 are pending with the company. Though the power supply to the two factories remains discounected with effect from November, 1993, minimum charges at the rate of Rs. 2.76 lakhs per month are payable for the subsequent months. However, no bills for this period have been received by the Company.

(b) Tannery & Footwear Corporation of India Ltd. (TAFCO) had been incurring continuous losses and was not generating adequate internal resources to meet its liabilities including payment of electricity charges.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The actual production during the last 4 years has gone down drastically due to various reasons including disdonnection of power supply to the factories.

Appointment of Chief Executives/Managing Dirtctors in PSUs

2081. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had appointed during the year 1997 some Chief Executipes/Managingn Directors of some PSUs under his Ministry's administrative jurisdiction without properly verifying the past records of the incumbents,

(b) whether such incumbents were allowed to take over on a festival day and a closed holiday for minority community;

(c) whether Government had taken such incurement at the intance of some private sector; and

(d) if so, the facts and detaiils thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN). (a) to (c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Impact of imports on Indian Industry

2082. DR. MOHAN BAHU:
SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent announcement of Government giving facilities for the import of 542 articles in the country has adverse affected Indian industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of articles included in the above list which are of daily use common consumer and which are reserved for small scale sector; and

(d) whether Government have provided incentives to the industrial units which are producing above articles so that they can successfully compete wtih the imported articles?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (d) The Export-Import Policy for 1997-2002 has put large number of items under the Open General Licence (OGL) and Special Import Licence (SIL) as

part of the Government poli*cy of Economic Liberalisation. Detai's of these items in the ITC (HS) Classification has been indicated in Export and Import Items for 1997-2002, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library. Only 5 items (category) are reserved for the small scale sector, 3 of these are of daily use for common consumer leather harness, bread & glassware (domestic). Several incentives and concessions are provide*d to the small scale industries so as to improve their competitiveness. The incentives|concessions provided include excise concessions, priority sector lending, technology and ex. tension support services, reservation of SSI products and price preference for SSI products in general in the Government procurement.

Entry of MNCs in tyre industry

2083. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government gave premissions to multinational cmpanies to establish their units in the country without consulting the indigenous tyre industry;

(b) why Government has been hasty in granting permission to certain multi. national tyre companies;

(c) whether the indigenous tyre industry ftars that multinational companies with whom the indigenous tyre industry have tie-up may withdraw transfer of technology, etc. in the near future once they establish their market in India; and

(d) the steps taken by Government o safeguard the interests of the indigenous tyre industry while granting permissions to the multinational companies?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) As per the present Industrial Policy, Rubber based industries (which include tyres) are delicensed. As such, no permission or Industrial Licence (subject to locational restraints) is required for establishment of a unit in the country.

(c) and (d) No such apprehension has been brought to the notice of the Government of India.

Growth centre at Vagra

2084. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the growth centre at Vagra in district Bharuch of Gujarat has been completed and started functioning;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the facilities available therein;

(c) if the growth centre is not yet complete, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when it is likely to be completed and starts functioning?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (d) Under the new Growth Centre Scheme, the Central Government's contribution to each approved growth centre is upto Rs. 10 crore, which has been fully released to the growth centre at Vagra in district Bharuch having regard to the physical and financial progress achieved in the implementation of the growth centre by the State Government. The total expenditure incurred upto 31st March, 1997 has been reported as Rs. 49.40 crore, out of which an amount of Rs. 38.45 crore has been spent on industrial infrastructure and Rs. 10.79 crore on land and site development. State Government has reported that 700 hectares of land has been acquired and also plots are ready for allotment.

Financial autonomy to profit making PSEs

2085. SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give managerial and financial autonomy to profit-making public sector enterprises on the lines of 'Navaratnas'; and